

C-8353

SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS CASES

017

EDGEWOOD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL. U. KIRBY, 1988-89

WILLIAM, ET AL. (3RD DISTRICT)

C-8353 SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS CASES
EDGEWOOD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL. U. KIRBY,
WILLIAM, ET AL. (3RD DISTRICT)

017
1988-89



Toby Bond
710 Loma Vista
Kenedy, Texas 78119

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE Toby Bond

Just because we live in a small town doesn't mean we should have a mediocre school. There are some schools the same size as ours that get three to four times as much funding as ours. Our school has no funds for creative programs and college level courses. Our schools should not be discriminated against because of location. Equal funding is the fair and just thing to do.

Our school has no money for art and vocational programs. Our school is the only one in our district without a drama class. The few classes offered have very little funding. There are very few elective choices. We need creative programs to help better ourselves.

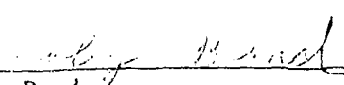
Secondly, our school doesn't have the classes needed to prepare students sufficiently for college. If you want to go to a notable college, you have to take classes during the summer. This costs the students money. We would have these classes if our school had the funds. We should not have to pay for classes that we should be getting for free.

Just because you live in a poor town or neighborhood doesn't mean we should get less funds than a rich area. Most of the schools are under funded. All students should have the same chances. It is unfair to the smarter people in our school.

The only right thing to do is grant equal funding. Our school has no creative programs. We don't have the classes needed to prepare for college.

Geography should not dictate your chances in school. Think of our futures in college and life.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief supporting Petitioners and Petitioner Intervenors in the Edgewood case.



Toby Bond
Ninth Grade

Michelle Garcez
P. O. Box 1824 N. Sunset
Kenedy, Texas 78119

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE Michelle Garcez

Fair school funding is a nation-wide problem concerning small schools especially in this state. My reasons are stated in the following sentences. Money is needed now for further delays will do irreparable damage. We have limited library books and materials. One other major problem is the lack of good facilities. Fair school funding needs to be started now!

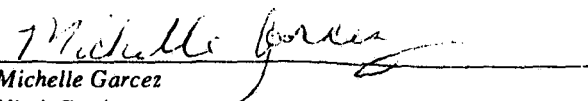
First of all money is needed now; further delays will cause more damage. Things that are having problems now and are not repaired will get worse. The repairs of equipment will build up including the need for money. If more money is not given the situation will get worse. That is why money is needed now!

Next is the lack of getting more library books and materials. There should be no limit on library books because reading is an enjoyment for kids while getting educated. Also there should be no limit on materials for such items as books, running of papers, and uniforms. Up-to-date books should be required to cover more of past history and other subjects. More paper is needed to run off information to get us more educated. Finally kids involved in sports or items with uniforms have better pride with good looking uniforms. This is why these books and materials should not be limited.

Finally, my last argument is the problem with facilities. There is not enough room for special activities that would involve more people. An unattractive campus results in lack of community and student pride. Students involved will do better with a good campus. This will lead to more supporters. A good track or other facilities will increase competition. This will help the kids become better and more successful. This is why problems with facilities should end.

This school funding needs to be taken care of now before problems get worse. Please consider my reasons which are money is needed now, there are limited books and materials, and the lack of good facilities. For the best results, we need to have fair school funding. School funding needs to be fair because the kids of today are the future of tomorrow.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief supporting Petitioners and Petitioner Intervenors in the Edgewood case.


Michelle Garcez
Ninth Grade

Lori FitzSimmons
705 Alta Vista
Kenedy, Texas 78119

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE Lori FitzSimmons

Have you ever noticed that some of the most successful people seem to have graduated from large high schools? Have you stopped to think about it? It is not right that some schools get so much money and others get very little. Some of the reasons you should distribute funds evenly are the following: higher educational opportunities should not be withheld; insufficient facilities; and, there is inequality in competing. We need money now before the real damage is done later.

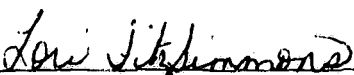
Educational opportunities should not be withheld because of where your parents happen to pick their jobs. If it is a small town, they will go to a small school. They may not be able to prove what they can do because there is not enough money to do so. The reason is that they did not get the right training.

Kids should be put in the best educational environment possible so they can learn well. How can they function without proper maintenance? A leaky cieling and a broken heater do not make up the best environment. Sometimes there are just too many kids to put in one classroom, but they do it anyway. How can a kid write when she/he is standing up? Also, how can we take pride in our school when it is disappointing to come every morning to see a trashy school?

Kids from small schools can not compete with schools who have greater funds. There is no way. Richer schools can buy what they need when schools like ours have to make do without. We cannot train our students to become better because we do not have the equipment. It is also hard to work well when you do not know what you are doing because there is no one to tell you how to do it. Many schools that are richer can excel because they can afford good teachers.

Top ranking kids come from big schools. Some of the reasons they are not so common in small schools is because of non-equal opportunities, insufficient funds, and inequality in competing. How are we supposed to take pride in what we are doing when there is no money to do anything? Think about that man who figures out he has the brains, talent, and ability to become a president only to realize he is too late. The reason for that is he would never get enough schooling in high school.

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Lori FitzSimmons
Ninth Grade

Steven Crutchfield
108 Bluebonnet
Kenedy, Texas 78119

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE Steven Crutchfield

The decision in the Edgewood case is one that will set a very important precedent in this country's future. With adequate funding, smaller school districts could provide the same courses and services that larger schools do. The smaller schools would be able to hire more teachers. In turn, this would lower the number of students in each class. The smaller districts would also be able to teach the skills needed to help a student succeed economically. With these advantages and many more why would you not approve the equal funding for all schools?

Many larger schools provide numerous courses that smaller schools have never heard or even dreamed of. With more money, the smaller schools can afford to hire more teachers to teach these courses, provide a wider variety of courses, and offer extra special services. With this greater variety of courses, students in the smaller districts would then be able to take courses just like students in the larger districts are doing. At the same time, the extra special services would help supplement the student's education. No one would be at an unfair advantage academically.

In smaller schools, many classes are cramped and very over-crowded, but the schools cannot afford to hire new teachers to lower the number of students in each classroom. If the school districts had the money to hire more teachers, classes could be a lot smaller. This would allow more one-on-one instruction between the teachers and students. More could be learned by each student. This would increase the realm of our educational system enormously, and all of this could be possible through equal funds.

Smaller schools are just not getting the funds needed in order to teach the skills necessary to succeed in life. Most of the businessmen, lawyers, and leaders of tomorrow are mostly all being turned out by the large schools. The equal funding would allow smaller schools also to find "America's future" in their students. With better educated citizens and leaders from all walks of life, America could not help but succeed. However, we must start today with the education of our children.

So, you see, many factors are riding on this issue. This decision will decide whether or not all students should be given an equal chance to succeed in life. Equal funding will also transport this country into an age where its government and people are all better educated. A wise and educated decision made now will insure our country's future.

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Steven Crutchfield
Ninth Grade

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE Kirk Nixon

In view of equality of school funding, I feel it would be a very advantageous process to follow. This would equal out the education system and give all students a fair chance. In all reality school districts are not all financially wealthy. The equalization of school funding would make all the school districts equal in the quality of education it gives its students.

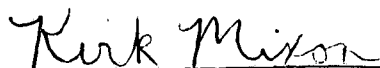
It is not fair to restrict a student just because of their geographic location. Our country was built on freedom and equality. We support the freedom policy, but not the equality. In some areas there are no taxing prospects.

In some school districts money is a scarce commodity. Just because a kid is born in a poor school district, does not mean he or she should have a poor education. Taxing is a key to the financial success of a school district. In places where there are industry plants, and crops flourish, money gained from the taxes placed on them is immense. In places where there is no industry or business, the tax gained is a minimum. The money gained on taxes dictates the quality of the teachers, buildings, and courses. The more money a school has the broader a range of courses it can offer its students. For example, in the larger wealthier schools, courses are offered that help you learn what the job market offers, but in the poor schools the range of courses is sharply lessened. Many poor schools can only afford the basic courses and no specialized courses. This is a very unfair way to handle education. It would be classified as discrimination.

The process of equaling out the education would benefit many students, while it would hurt none. In the rich school districts their schools have many luxuries which are not needed. The monies that are spent on these luxuries could go to a poor school to better the education they offer. The kids in a small rural area are no different than the kids in a large industrialized area. They both deserve equal opportunities in the way of education and the future. The equalization would be more productive for us in the long run and would help taxes produce more higher, educated, high school graduates.

In conclusion, you see all the benefits of the equalization of school funding. If we would work together in the education, we could improve it immensely. Sharing is the main idea and should be a key policy. We need to equal out student's education in taxes. If the rich schools would only be willing to give up a few luxuries, the poor schools could make giant steps forward with that money.

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Kirk Nixon
Twelfth Grade

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE John Crutchfield

The Edgewood case is a very controversial issue, but it is a very important issue for the smaller and poorer school districts. If the poor school districts could get the same funding as the other school districts they could have better educational material, better athletic programs, and better teachers. We must enable every child to get the best education possible. With the Edgewood case this would equalize the funds and help the poorer school districts educate their students just as the richer school districts do. We would not be depriving students of an education because of where they live or because of the lack of materials in their school.

The educational tools of the richer school districts are much better than the poorer school districts. They have more research materials, more and better computers, and better teaching aids than the poorer school districts. We must equalize these things and provide all students with the opportunities to use these materials in order to get a better education.

The athletics program is one of the most visible differences in the different school districts. The rich schools have better facilities and therefore they get more students to come out and participate in their athletic program. As a result of taking part in these, they stay off of the street, they stay in school, and they do not drop out of school. All school districts must be willing to equalize and give every student the same opportunity in all areas of school life.

The faculty that teaches our children should also be equalized out. If some of the funds are spread out, why not put some of the money into teacher's salaries? This would invite more qualified teachers to teach in all the school districts and help the students obtain all the education possible. There would also be a better student to teacher ratio that would also help the student to learn.

The people of Texas need the Supreme Court to listen to the Edgewood case. If they look at the case carefully they will be aware of the problems and work to improve it in the future. We should not deprive the students of quality education because of where they live. We should work to give all students the best education possible by giving them an equal education.

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John Crutchfield
Twelfth Grade


STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE Ronald Card

There is a case pending in the courts of Texas which would allow the poorer school districts to obtain funding equal to those of the more fortunate districts. The system currently in action allows students in certain school districts, although no more gifted, to have the advantage of more academic and extracurricular programs.

I, as student of one of the poorest school districts in the state of Texas, feel that much of my education has been impaired due to inadequate funds. The lack of a honors program and other electives has also reflected lower scores for many students on the SAT, ACT, and other achievement tests. Students trying to enter college find it more difficult, and more students than average end up in the poor class which we so often fret about and hunt for solutions. Such funding would not only aid the college bound students. Many students drop out because they are bored or disinterested with school. A wide variety of well funded classes and programs would keep many of these students in school. However, Kenedy cannot offer any of these benefits because the state of Texas will not fund them. In fact, many classes such as the science courses use old, dilapidated equipment already.

Taxpayers in the city of Kenedy pay enormous amounts of money and yet get a small return on their investment for their children. Why? Why are we, as students and citizens of the United States under the same constitution, being deprived of an equal education? If the state of Texas is looking for a solution to the problems which plague our educational system, then this is a good place to begin.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief supporting Petitioners and Petitioner Intervenors in the Edgewood case.



Ronald Card
Twelfth Grade

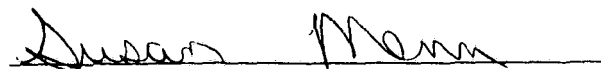
STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE Susan Menn

Richer schools sharing with less fortunate schools sounds like a wonderful idea in my opinion. There are so many ways this idea could help the poor school districts.

For one thing, it is not fair for fortunate schools to get the best education that money can buy when there are other students who deserve the same amount of education, but cannot get it because of how much money their parents make. These students need a chance too.

This would also help the children of future graduates who plan on staying in the same area they grew up in. This idea not only would help in the future of our children, but also will help with the taxes our parents are paying now. This would put better use of the money our parents give to the government and maybe even lower them a little by not spending it on trivial things.

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Susan Menn
Twelfth Grade

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE Grace Brown

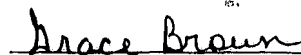
Over two centuries ago our forefathers created the Constitution of our United States based on the belief that all men are created equal. This concept of equality, however, is not being properly upheld by the Constitution.

Children in poor school districts are not receiving the same quality of education as those in richer districts. There are multiple and nameless hardships carried by children whose schools cannot afford to bestow them with an education equal to those in wealthy schools due to a simple and correctable shortage of capital. The students in poor districts are always a step behind when they try to compete against the students in richer districts, whether it be academically or athletically. Poor schools usually rank lower in test score averages because they cannot afford to prepare their students.

When graduates of poor schools enter college they often have a hard time adjusting to new study habits in view of the fact that they have had no preparatory classes to enable them to face the overwhelming change of college from high school. It is not fair that so much talent is lost both academically and athletically because a poor school district does not have the available funds to purchase the supplies and equipment needed to develop those talents.

It is nothing less than a crime that an innocent child should have to pay the price for the government's lack of responsibility in not allowing for the equal distribution of monies to all schools to make certain that equality is experienced by all.

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Grace Brown
Twelfth Grade

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE Lee Ann Hermes

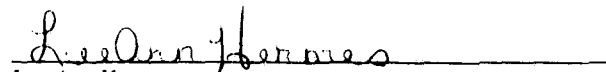
I believe that the Supreme Court should hear the case of Edgewood and they should carefully consider the effects of such cases on schools.

A case such as Edgewood is not uncommon at all within many school districts. The rich school districts have a great advantage over the poor districts. They usually have the best and the newest textbooks, nicer facilities, more advanced learning equipment, such as computers, and better athletic programs and equipment. The students seem to be more advanced than the ones from poor schools because they are able to use more money for each student. They also seem better prepared for college. It is also very common for the rich school districts to have an outstanding athletic program. They can afford better equipment and are usually the ones who go to the top in their events.

Although the poor school districts teach the same subjects and basically have the same programs, they are just not as well off as the others. Old textbooks are used year after year, old equipment is used in athletics, and computers are scarcely available for the student's use. Poor schools use every penny they have for necessities, but they still never have enough for everything they need.

I believe that all school districts should be treated equally and given the same amount of money. It is not fair for one certain region to be deprived of something they deserve, and another region to have everything. A good education is supposed to be the purpose of going to school, and everyone should have an equal opportunity to do so.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief supporting Petitioners and Petitioner Intervenors in the Edgewood case.


Lee Ann Hermes
Twelfth Grade

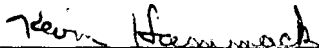
STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE Kevin Hammack

The fact that certain schools are monetarily able to better educate their students is simply unconstitutional. It is unequitable that just because some schools are located in mineral-rich geographic locations they have more funds than other schools. It is imperative that changes take place to equally distribute funds to all schools.

More often than not, students of poorer schools suffer great disadvantages when trying to adjust to college. Test scores are also typically lower than those of students from richer schools.

Although these citations are just a very few of the many, they are significant and bonafide reasons for change. The only just solution is an equal distribution of money to each school regardless of its geographic surroundings.

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Kevin Hammack
Twelfth Grade

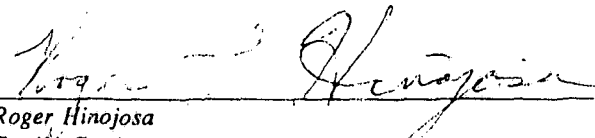
STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE Roger Hinojosa

Education includes all the ways in which one person tries to influence the behavior of another person. This includes behavior such as knowledge, skills, habits, and attitudes. Also all American citizens hope their children will be granted with a better education to flourish and cope with the future yet to come. This and many other reasons is why education should be equal to every single American either in a major school district or in a small district such as Kenedy High School.

Kenedy is one of the lowest funded school systems in the state of Texas. The demands for more funds is great in this district for things such as books, more educational programs, and expansion in the athletic department. There should be no descretion in the funding of districts so that all students get a better shot of advancement in the business world out there.

The American people have great faith in the value of education. They believe that a democratic society rests upon them. They believe that all the people must be educated so they can make intelligent decisions when they vote and decide public issues. Americans also believe that each person should have an equal opportunity to acquire the kind of education that will be best for him.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief supporting Petitioners and Petitioner Intervenors in the Edgewood case.



Roger Hinojosa
Twelfth Grade

Alice Sandoval
Star Rt. 2 Box 15
Kenedy, Texas 78119

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE Alice Sandoval

Do you want our school to become nothing in the future? What I mean is that in the future, we will be facing more problems. What I am trying to say is to help our school.

First of all our classes are too large to permit attention to individual students that want to learn. The classes are so large that there is no place to sit down. We have problems in the classes.

Second of all, there is no money for innovative programs and services. We need money for science chemicals, computers, and up-to-date materials. There is no money to go around to buy those neat things.

Finally, we are losing good teachers to high paying school districts. We lose so many good teachers throughout the year. Sometimes I wish I could make them come back. I understand they leave because other schools give higher pay.

All I am asking is to make our dream come true. Our classes are too large, there is no money, and there is loss of good teachers. Let me leave you with a thought. We do not want to fail in life. We want to be something in life.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief supporting Petitioners and Petitioner Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Alice Sandoval
Alice Sandoval
Ninth Grade

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Amicus Brief in Support of Petitioners' and Petitioner-Intervenors' Applications for Writ of Error has been sent on this 19th day of June, 1989, by United States Mail, postage prepaid to all counsel of record.

Sandra R. Nicolas

Sandra R. Nicolas
State Bar Number 15016500

ARNOLD AND NICOLAS
800 One Capitol Square
300 West Fifteenth Street
Austin, Texas 78701
512-320-5200

RECEIVED
IN THE SUPREME COURT
OF TEXAS

NO. C-8353

C 8353

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

AUSTIN, TEXAS

EDGEWOOD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL.,

Petitioners

V.

WILLIAM KIRBY, ET AL.,

Respondents

BRIEF OF AMICUS CURIAE IN SUPPORT OF THE PETITIONERS AND
PETITIONER-INTERVENORS BY THE
KINDERGARTEN CLASS
OF SANGER ISD, SANGER, TEXAS

VOLUME I

NO. C-8353

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WILLIAM KIRBY, ET AL.,
Respondents

BRIEF OF AMICUS CURIAE IN SUPPORT OF PETITIONERS AND
PETITIONER-INTERVENORS BY THE
KINDERGARTEN CLASS OF SANGER ISD, SANGER, TEXAS

VOLUME I

TO THE HONORABLE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS:

Now come the Kindergarten Class of Sanger ISD, Sanger, Texas and submit the following statements in support of the ruling of the Honorable Harley Clark, Judge - 250th Judicial District, Travis County, in Cause Number 362,516.

The undersigned has been requested to submit these statements to the Court. The undersigned does not represent any party and has no monetary interest in the outcome of the litigation. The statements presented are from individuals

who have a substantial interest in preserving the State's ability to provide equitable public education to its citizens.

Accordingly, the Kindergarten Class of Sanger ISD, Sanger, Texas respectfully pray that this Court consider the attached statements (Volume I) and uphold the decision of the trial court in the case at bar.

Respectfully submitted,
ARNOLD AND NICOLAS
800 One Capitol Square
300 West Fifteenth Street
Austin, Texas 78701
512-320-5200

by Sandra R. Nicolas
Sandra R. Nicolas
State Bar No. 15016500

PLEASE NOTE:

The following statements are essentially identical to the first statement bound in this volume.

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Stephen

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

I urge you to hear and support Edgewood v. Kirby.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,

Stephen
Student
Edgewood v. Kirby

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Justin

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

Justin
Student

Justin Kindred

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Justin

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Thank you,

Student

Justin G. Kindergd Hter

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Brandon

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Thank you,

Brandon
Student

Kirby
+ Edgewood

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Elizabeth

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

Elizabeth KIN dergdrten
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Christy

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

I urge you to hear and support Edgewood v. Kirby.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,

Christy, Kindergarten
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Michael

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Thank you,

Student

Michael Kirby

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STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Christelle

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Thank you,

CHRISTELLE
Student
kinderg
arten

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Charlie

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

Student

Charlie Kirby

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STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Misty

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Thank you,


Student

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STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Coty

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Thank you,

Student

Coty

J. Kindergarten

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Stormy

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

Stormy, Kindergarten
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Wyndi

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

Student

Wyndi Kindergart + 2nd

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Jennifer

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

Jennifer Kindergarten
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Tye

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

Tye, kindergarten
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Kyla

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

Kyla Kinderg

Student

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STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Ruth

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Thank you,

Ruth v. Kindergarten
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Meredith

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

Meredith Kinggarten
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Kristen

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Thank you,

Kristen Kindergarten
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Kristen

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Thank you,

Student

Kristen Kirby

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Brandon

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Thank you,

BRANDON KINDEN
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Marquis

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

Marquis 90-6h
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Alicia

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Thank you,

Alicia Kindergarten
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Ben

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Thank you,

Ben K. Kindersten
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Jeanie

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Thank you,

JEANIE PETRIE
Student

ph
Ph

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Walter

I live in a little town called Sanger, Texas. I go to school at Chisholm Trail Elementary School. I think the State of Texas should be fair to all the children who go to school in Texas. I think that just because a child goes to school in a little town doesn't mean his school should get less money. It takes as much money to run a school in a small town as in a larger town. We need your help!

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Thank you,

Walter-Kindergarten
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Colt

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Thank you,

Colt Kirby
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Natalie

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Thank you,

Natalie - Kindergarten
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Kyle

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Thank you,

Kyle - Kindergarten
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Quincy

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Thank you,

Quincy - kindergarten
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Megan

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Thank you,

MEGAN

Student

- Kindergarten

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Stacy

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Thank you,

Student

Stacy - Kindergarten

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Jessica

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Thank you,

Jessica-KINDERGARTEN
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Mark

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Thank you,

Student

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Amicus Brief in Support of Petitioners' and Petitioner-Intervenors' Applications for Writ of Error has been sent on this 19th day of June, 1989, by United States Mail, postage prepaid to all counsel of record.

Sandra R. Nicolas

Sandra R. Nicolas
State Bar Number 15016500

ARNOLD AND NICOLAS
800 One Capitol Square
300 West Fifteenth Street
Austin, Texas 78701
512-320-5200

RECEIVED
IN SUPREME COURT
OF TEXAS

JUN 19 1993

NO. C-8353

CLERK OF COURT
JAMES W. HARRIS, JR.
JAMES W. HARRIS, JR.

C 8353

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

AUSTIN, TEXAS

EDGEWOOD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL.,

Petitioners

V.

WILLIAM KIRBY, ET AL.,

Respondents

BRIEF OF AMICUS CURIAE IN SUPPORT OF THE PETITIONERS AND
PETITIONER-INTERVENORS BY THE
KINDERGARTEN CLASS
OF SANGER ISD, SANGER, TEXAS

VOLUME II

NO. C-8353

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

AUSTIN, TEXAS

EDGEWOOD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL.,

Petitioners

V.

WILLIAM KIRBY, ET AL.,

Respondents

BRIEF OF AMICUS CURIAE IN SUPPORT OF THE PETITIONERS AND
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KINDERGARTEN CLASS
OF SANGER ISD, SANGER, TEXAS

VOLUME II

NO. C-8353

IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS
AUSTIN, TEXAS

EDGEWOOD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL.,
Petitioners

V.

WILLIAM KIRBY, ET AL.,
Respondents

BRIEF OF AMICUS CURIAE IN SUPPORT OF PETITIONERS AND
PETITIONER-INTERVENORS BY THE
KINDERGARTEN CLASS OF SANGER ISD, SANGER, TEXAS

VOLUME II

TO THE HONORABLE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS:

Now come the Kindergarten Class of Sanger ISD, Sanger, Texas and submit the following statements in support of the ruling of the Honorable Harley Clark, Judge - 250th Judicial District, Travis County, in Cause Number 362,516.

The undersigned has been requested to submit these statements to the Court. The undersigned does not represent any party and has no monetary interest in the outcome of the litigation. The statements presented are from individuals

who have a substantial interest in preserving the State's ability to provide equitable public education to its citizens.

Accordingly, the Kindergarten Class of Sanger ISD, Sanger, Texas respectfully pray that this Court consider the attached statements (Volume II) and uphold the decision of the trial court in the case at bar.

Respectfully submitted,
ARNOLD AND NICOLAS
800 One Capitol Square
300 West Fifteenth Street
Austin, Texas 78701
512-320-5200

by Sandra R. Nicolas
Sandra R. Nicolas
State Bar No. 15016500

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Jamie

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

Student

~~Jamie~~ Kinder
dite

PLEASE NOTE:

The following statements are essentially identical to the first statement bound in this volume.

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Kelly

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

Kelly K. Hergarten
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Nicole

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Thank you,

Nicole, Kintep Gathen
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Phillip

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

Phillip Kirby
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Michael

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Thank you,

Student

Michael Kirby
Sanger
gentry

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Dana

I live in a little town called Sanger, Texas. I go to school at Chisholm Trail Elementary School. I think the State of Texas should be fair to all the children who go to school in Texas. I think that just because a child goes to school in a little town doesn't mean his school should get less money. It takes as much money to run a school in a small town as in a larger town. We need your help!

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Thank you,

Student

DANA - KIDDERGARTEN

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Buck

I live in a little town called Sanger, Texas. I go to school at Chisholm Trail Elementary School. I think the State of Texas should be fair to all the children who go to school in Texas. I think that just because a child goes to school in a little town doesn't mean his school should get less money. It takes as much money to run a school in a small town as in a larger town. We need your help!

I urge you to hear and support Edgewood v. Kirby.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,

Buck - Kinde
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, William

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Thank you,

Student

William - Kirby

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Melinda

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Thank you,

Melinda-Kinderger
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Cody

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Thank you,

Student

Cody - Kinder

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Johnnie

I live in a little town called Sanger, Texas. I go to school at Chisholm Trail Elementary School. I think the State of Texas should be fair to all the children who go to school in Texas. I think that just because a child goes to school in a little town doesn't mean his school should get less money. It takes as much money to run a school in a small town as in a larger town. We need your help!

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Thank you,

Dina J. - Kirby

Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Tony

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

+ ONLY KINOLE

Student

DARTEN

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Tessa

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

Tessa Kindergarten
Student

ten

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Ray

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

Ray Kinsola Teh
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Nathan

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

Nathan
Student

Kindergarten

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Nathan

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I urge you to hear and support Edgewood v. Kirby.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,

NATHAN

Student

KINDERGARTEN

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Krista

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

Krista Kinden

Student

grt/v

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Kody

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

Kody Ki Moberg ~~Kody~~
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Kira

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

Student

Kira KINdergarte V

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Kenneth

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

Kenneth Kindergarten
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, **Jessica**

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

I urge you to hear and support Edgewood v. Kirby.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,

JESSICA KIRBY

Student

g q n + e n

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Heather

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

Heather Kin Derghatten
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Emily

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

Emily
Student

Kindergarten

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Dustin

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

I urge you to hear and support Edgewood v. Kirby.

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Thank you,


Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Dorothy

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Thank you,

Dorothy Kirby
Student

Kindergarten

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Andy

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Thank you,

Student

ANDY KIRBY
KIRBY

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, **Brendan**

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I urge you to hear and support Edgewood v. Kirby.

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Thank you,

Student

Brendan Kinder
gartner

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Andrew

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

Andrew Kinderg
Student

en

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Amy

I go to school in a little town called Sanger. It is in Texas by a new lake. Some people say they pay alot of tax money to live here. Some people say our schools don't get as much money as Dallas and San Antonio. I don't think that is fair. In school, we have learned one person is just as important as another person. I think I am just as important as a child who goes to school in a big city, and my school is just as special as the schools in Dallas. The State of Texas should be fair to every child and every school. My school should get just as much money as the bigger schools do.

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Thank you,

~~Amy~~
Student

Kindergarten

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Audrey

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Thank you,

Audrey Kindergarten
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Clint

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Thank you,

Student

Clint Kindergarten

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Angela

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I urge you to hear and support Edgewood v. Kirby.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,

ANGELA

Student

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Amicus Brief in Support of Petitioners' and Petitioner-Intervenors' Applications for Writ of Error has been sent on this 19th day of June, 1989, by United States Mail, postage prepaid to all counsel of record.

Sandra R. Nicolas

Sandra R. Nicolas
State Bar Number 15016500

ARNOLD AND NICOLAS
800 One Capitol Square
300 West Fifteenth Street
Austin, Texas 78701
512-320-5200

RECEIVED
IN SUPREME COURT
OF TEXAS

NO. C-8353

JUN 20 1969

C 8353

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

AUSTIN, TEXAS

EDGEWOOD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL.,

Petitioners

V.

WILLIAM KIRBY, ET AL.,

Respondents

BRIEF OF AMICUS CURIAE IN SUPPORT OF THE PETITIONERS AND
PETITIONER-INTERVENORS BY THE
REGISTERED VOTERS, TAXPAYERS, PARENTS, TEACHERS AND CITIZENS
OF SANGER ISD, SANGER, TEXAS

NO. C-8353

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

AUSTIN, TEXAS

EDGEWOOD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL.,

Petitioners

V.

WILLIAM KIRBY, ET AL.,

Respondents

BRIEF OF AMICUS CURIAE IN SUPPORT OF THE PETITIONERS AND
PETITIONER-INTERVENORS BY THE
REGISTERED VOTERS, TAXPAYERS, PARENTS, TEACHERS AND CITIZENS
OF SANGER ISD, SANGER, TEXAS

NO. C-8353

IN THE

SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS
AUSTIN, TEXAS

EDGEWOOD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL.,

Petitioners

V.

WILLIAM KIRBY, ET AL.,

Respondents

THIRD COURT OF APPEALS AT AUSTIN

BRIEF OF AMICUS CURIAE IN SUPPORT OF THE PETITIONERS AND
PETITIONER-INTERVENORS BY THE
REGISTERED VOTERS, TAXPAYERS, PARENTS, TEACHERS AND CITIZENS
OF SANGER ISD, SANGER, TEXAS

TO THE HONORABLE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS:

Now come the registered voters, taxpayers, parents, teachers and citizens of Sanger ISD, Sanger, Texas and submit the following statements in support of the ruling of the Honorable Harley Clark, Judge - 250th Judicial District, Travis County, in Cause Number 362,516.

The undersigned has been requested to submit these statements to the Court. The undersigned does not represent any party and has no monetary interest in the outcome of the litigation. The statements presented are from individuals

who have a substantial interest in preserving the State's ability to provide equitable public education to its citizens.

Accordingly, the registered voters, taxpayers, parents, teachers and citizens of Sanger ISD, Sanger, Texas respectfully pray that this Court consider the attached statements and uphold the decision of the trial court in the case at bar.

Respectfully submitted,
ARNOLD AND NICOLAS
800 One Capitol Square
300 West Fifteenth Street
Austin, Texas 78701
512-320-5200

by Sandra R. Nicolas
Sandra R. Nicolas
State Bar No. 15016500

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Elizabeth Higgs

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for distribution of state funds in Texas.

As a taxpayer, parent of two graduates of Sanger High School and teacher, I am concerned about the rising costs in our school district. Our taxes continue to rise to meet new mandates placed on the small as well as large districts. Currently, our tax rate is the highest in Denton county. Even with this high tax rate, teacher salaries have been frozen, supplies have been limited and positions have been eliminated. We strive for excellence in education at Sanger. We cannot continue to raise taxes to achieve this excellence.

In short, we need your help for the benefit of the future of Texas.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth Higgs".

Elizabeth Higgs
Teacher

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Michael Danner

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Our schools have had roofs that leak, low salaries from the custodians to the superintendent, lack of equipment, etc., and high taxes for years. Our tax rate was \$1.20 per hundred back when \$0.50 and \$0.60 rates were considered high.

More money is needed now for the low value districts to meet the challenge of educational reform; further delays will do irreparable damage.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement as an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,

Mike Danner
Teacher, Sanger I.S.D.